Presonus Eris Eris 5 and 8 test
Active 2-way studio monitors
Cheap and feature-rich

The American company Presonus maintains a small, fine portfolio of high quality audio solutions for the home studio. The Central Station monitor controller and monitor station include also long been the standard in the project studio - only studio speakers have been missing in the offer.

And since the market is already highly competitive in nearfield monitors, you have to come up with something as a shooting star. Or "just be better" than the others, which means: High quality, low price AND many features. What could be better than to let us come once these speakers and test them extensively?

Details

The Presonus Eris Eris 5 and 8 are active 2-way nearfield monitors the budget price range and are traded in pairs, which is quite common. With the 5.25-inch woofer, the Eris is the 5 smallest Presonus Monitor, the Eris 8 with the 8-inch model, however, is extremely lavish. The bass drivers are made of Kevlar fabric, which now belongs in this league "good manners". Here they were once "blue" colored for a change. However, in the studio dim light they look almost black. Because quite similar components like the Presonus box a number of other monitor speakers, among others here would be the M-Audio BX8 D2 and BX5a call, the ESI Unik 05 and the Behringer B1030A.
Active means that the crossover sitting in front of the built-in amplifiers and an "active" components such as operational amplifiers, used for the separation of the frequency spectrum. Separately, at 3 kHz (Eris 5) respectively 2.2 kHz (Eris 8). There are consequently two stages ("bi-amping") each box is used, provide the tweeter and woofer independently. Is good to know that you can achieve fairly linear results with this principle and relatively low (financial) effort.

As you already seen in our lead picture, the two models differ significantly in their proportions. While the little Eris 5 in conjunction with optional foam wedges can still provide quiet with the desk, it is in great contrast Eris 8 already close! Here stands should not only be free skating, but all compulsory anyway. Detailed dimensions and weight please you can extract the following list:

- Model: Eris 5/8 Eris
- Width in mm: 178/250
- Depth in mm: 195/299
- Height in mm: 260/384
- Weight in kg: 4.6 / 10.1

The "big" Eris 8

The tweeter Eris 5
The 1.25-inch silk-dome tweeter the Eris 8 receives the data sheet 65 "W," the 1-inch tweeter 5 of Eris on the other hand 35 watts. The woofers are, however, of 45 watts (Eris 5) or 75 watts fired (Eris 8). That this can be no RMS information should be clear and not surprising at this price point. Similarly, the following information, which remain without further reference information "relatively meaningless" and you should not blindly trust them when comparing boxes. However, this is not the sole problem of Presonus, but rather our "blunt confidence" against numbers owed. However, I would not withhold these values: The transmission curve for the large Eris 8 is certainly given with 35 Hz to 22 kHz, and for the smaller Eris 5 with 53 Hz to 22 kHz. The "remarkable" values but lack the reference point of the cut-off frequencies (eg "-3dB"). Strange that in an earlier press release, the lowest cut-off frequencies were given around 10 Hz higher.

The bass drivers and the bass port on the Eris 8 The logo lights up blue when active.

The situation is similar in principle to the specified, maximum sound pressure level, so he should be at this point called only uncommented: 102 dB "Peak SPL" for Eris 5 and 105 dB "Peak SPL" for the Eris 8 and at one meter. The rugged bass reflex enclosure is like almost all speakers today foiled MDF and was accordingly with matte black vinyl. The front baffle is made of no-frills plastic, edge-free and slightly curved outwards, to reduce edge diffraction and flow noise. Also around the tweeter around the baffles are curved and even acts here as a waveguide to couple homogeneous to the baffle. The bass port is in the form of a wide slot down, making the box if necessary even wall-close times may be established. Although one might also expect another of "Manufactured in China" certainly, could be found in the processing of any of my four sampling deficiencies or irregularities. The speaker thus appear very solid and manufactured in high quality.
The compact rear of Eris 5 However, connections to filter or must not be omitted ...

All connections are located on the back of course: there is an IEC, "IEC connector" for 120/240 volts, the voltage selector switch, the main switch and the audio inputs and an extensive filter section. Also the connection section leaves no wish unfulfilled: Balanced XLR and 1/4-inch TRS ("big catch") Connection (+4 dBu) and unbalanced RCA to-10dBV level. What more could you want? ... Added an INPUT GAIN control comes with rasterized "Unity" center position. The other two variable potentiometers are also provided with a screened middle position, serve, however, the sound adjustment and provide a + / - 6 dB peak-mid filter at 1 kHz (MID) and + / - 6 dB treble shelving filter frequency of 10 kHz (HIGH) represents. the bass filter on the other hand come along in the form of two small slide switch: LOW CUTOFF is regarded as a classic high-pass, which is "down" curtails the box and the positions "Off (Flat)" / "80 Hz" / "100 Hz "knows. Where you at this point should not conceal the fact that a "subsonic filter" is installed, which means "very deep" sounds basically filters out anyway. ACOUSTIC SPACE, however, is a broad shelving filter, which attaches below 800 Hz and positioning in the corner (quarter-space) in front of the wall (half-space) or in space (full-space) to compensate. So you can lower to 0 dB / -2 dB / -4 dB bass again. Missing actually only a desktop filter, but we do not want to be cocky. It continues with the practice!

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**Practice**

Anyone who reads regularly bonedo knows what's coming. My tripods! In this now I make the Eris 8 and on top of it comes the Eris 5. So that the latter does not shine over me, I have to put foam wedges to make them easy to lean forward and everything nice built in a 1m stereo triangle. To switch between Presonus speakers and my main monitoring I use the fairly neutral Drawmer MC2.1. This transducer is still my RME UFX for use. Here I was initially surprised by the generally good-natured, linear overall sound of both models. Top! Not too sharp highs or brutal middle, so you can concentrate on work with them over an extended period of time. Also the transientenabbildung was good, especially considering the price! Nevertheless oversubscribed - with critical thinking - the bass a little bit of both models. The E8 also engulfed in addition some centers, so that I not only the bass filter ACOUSTIC SPACE set with her 'on-2dB, but the mid control a little've turned up - the treble a little, however I turned back. So it's good that there is this large filter! Now the bass was beautifully crisp, and the mids were now much more detailed. In this case, you should really stress once more that it usually does not give to find as many pots on the back in this segment and you have to live with other speakers according to the scattering of the "factory defaults." Then I grabbed a simple measurement micro- and with the Fuzzmeasure software also measured the whole time what I hear there. And lo and behold, that looks really good for this price! The course is therefore largely flat, only the slight bass boost just before the garbage that you do not get out completely. Note further that it is not a "real" measurement in an anechoic chamber is, but "only" an exemplary measurement in my studio on my tripod, in front of my table! The result of this is very good.

![Frequency Response](image)

When Eris 5 I can imagine, in principle, to work with the slight bass boost. To activate the -2dB/-4dB bass filter, so here's a matter of taste. The center filter can also be in the small Eris 5 "0 dB" or should it just be turning to a minimum to maintain linearity. The upper mids I felt in the small box anyway dissolved cleaner than the big E8, which is certainly also to the...
smaller, lighter - and the woofer is only much later acquiring tweeter - and thus more responsive. An effect I also in the Fostex PM 641 could observe. If the vote had the Eris 8 in the lower altitudes as in the A / B comparison with the Eris 5 also easily washed out when pricked ears. Considering that many Bedroom studios are rather minor nature or the stereo triangle in the workplace than 1m wide, it is served quite better with the smaller boxes.

As for the rich bass to make the great Speaker of course more fun, no question! Here you can also experiment with the-4dB bass filter in smaller studios in the Eris 8 possibly to achieve "neutral results." The other bass filter, however, is "only" a low-cut, and only in conjunction with a subwoofer - which does not have a bass management - makes sense. In the "normal stereo mode", ie without a subwoofer, this filter steals too much bass to be used wisely for space adjustments. Nonetheless, nice that it's there if you need it once. Both boxes achieve a considerable volume, but starts from a certain point of the bass at, to press, but also no speaker in this Preismetier creates better. The resonances in the lower layers fall in the big boxes while logically somewhat stronger, since the smaller version does not even go so deep and loud accordingly. In normal, "medium loud" levels can but still good judge stimuli on both systems. Material is too deep, however, eliminated by the built-in "Sub-Sonic" filter, here you should definitely still seek the assistance of analyzers for the final master. resolution The stereo is also good, even in the depths, you can listen something. However, you should not hide the fact that you have spent a lot more money for a little more power. Moreover, it was a slight noise from the pit of perceptible, but this was limited, and I only noticed because I stand four piece Eris and had turned on. Protective circuits I could not persuade them to direct counter-rules by the way, before blow-dried to me in literally the bass port wind in the face. The delay, which can act on the box the audio lines shortly after switching on, I found, however, should look casual and all salon owners who turn their studio with only a "master switch". Something like this should be built into each box actually! That, however, is no auto-standby, is a pity, especially in times of heated discussions energy revolution. At idle, both pairs 20/25 watts power to take at least located under "interceptible" full load then there are approximately 40/50Watt.

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**Conclusion**

The Eris 5 and 8 Presonus are quality made, well-equipped and good-natured active speakers for near field. The fairly linear tuning of the boxes allows an amazingly balanced and transparent sound reproduction, and for a very attractive price. Since the Eris 5 but costs almost half and was able to convince most sonically it gets awarded 5 stars. The somewhat more vulnerable resonance Eris 8 receives 4 stars, however. Try it!

**PRO:**
- Transparent, neutral sound
- Extensive facilities
- Functional and simple design
- Practicable local adaptive filtering

**CONS:**
- no auto-standby
- Resonances in the upper power range

**FEATURES PRESONUS ERIS 5:**
- 5.25" (133 mm) Tieftöner with Kevlar cone
- 1" (25mm) silk dome tweeter with Crossover frequency 3 kHz
- 53 Hz - 22 kHz
- 45/35 Watt Class-AB amplifiers
- 102 dB SPL (continuous operation)
- Gain control, mid control (peak EQ, 1 kHz, + / -6 dB), treble (shelving, 4.5 kHz, + / -6 dB),

**PRO + CONTRA**

**PER**
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**REVIEW**

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